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THE PRINCIPAL
Grounds, Basis, Argument,
OR,

S O U L!
OF THE
NEW CELESTIAL CURTAIN,
(OR REPREHENSORY)
LECTURE!

Most humbly addressed to all
CROWNED HEADS!
GREAT PERSONAGES!
And others, whom it may concern.

By JAMES GRAHAM, M. D.

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To Catharine! The magnanimous and the great!--Empress of all the Russias, the fostering mother of the most extensive empire in the world! To Joseph! The wise and the good!--the immortal emperor of Germany!-----
 To George the Third! King of Great Britain!-----To his most Christian Majesty! Louis the sixteenth, King of France!-----
 to his Holiness the pope of Rome!--to their Majesties! The Kings of Spain! of Sweden! Of Denmark! Of Prussia!-----and
 to all and singular, the other emperors, Kings, Queens, Princes and Potentates, Ecclesiastical and Civil! To the Rulers, Governors, Intendants, Officers and Magistrates, Civil and Military, of all the Common-wealths, States, Cities, Towns, Districts, Hamlets, and Wards; to the Masters and Mistresses of private families, and to each individual of the human-species, whether Christian, Jew, Turk, Heathen, or Idolater, that now lives, or that shall hereafter live in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, or on any other continent, Island, or habitation floating on water or in Air, that now is, or that may hereafter appear, or be discovered, on this Terraqueous Globe, till the final Consumation, absorption, and assimilation of all Beings and things into the Boundless and eternal Principle or Ocean of transcendantly Glorious and altogether incomprehensible Light, Life, omniscience, omnipotence, Love and Goodness!--- Or
 into

into that other Principle or Abyfs of Dark-
nefs, Evil, Malevolence, and Mifery, from
whence they all originally fprung, and into
which they fhall all finally return,——

JAMES GRAHAM,
Formerly a Phyfician ; but now a Christian
Philosopher, and an ardent Studier, and lov-
ing Follower of Nature !---fendeth and pro-
claimeth greeting, and in all Love !---

Christian Potentates !

FOR 'tis ye chiefly, whom in the name of
Truth ! Of humanity ! Of nature ! Of
Happinefs ! and of God ! I here moft humbly,
moft ardently, and moft pathetically addrefs.---

Taught and commanded by *Him* who fpake
as *never man* ; fpake---ye, and your predeceffors,
have, for almoft eighteen hundred years, been
praying, day by day, to the Great Common
Father ! of all things ! The Greateft and moft
Glorious !—the moft adorable and moft incom-
prehenfible, fole creator and Preserver !—fu-
preme and abfolute SOVEREIGN of the UNIVERSE !

“ THY Kingdom come !—Thy Will be done
on Earth, as it is done in Heaven ” !——

Wift ye, that as free moral or intellectual agents !
and as the Sons and Daughters of God ! Ruling
over the Children of Men, ye have it now ac-
tually in your power to let it be as ye have fo
long, and I truft fo fincerely prayed for ?!—and
will ye believe that our Great and moft Gracious
God ! hath prefented *me*, feemingly one of the
moft

most unworthy of his rational creatures, with (*figuratively*) the Keys of his kingdom of Universal Life and Light !—of peace and of Love ! and of (at present) inconceivably transcendent felicity ?! ———and that he hath commissioned *me* to deliver them to YOU !—willing, charging, commanding,---*beseeking* you to open wide the everlasting doors,---that HE ! the eternal King of Light ! of Life ! and of Love !---His most Glorious Court ! and all the blessings of his Celestial Kingdom, may enter in ?!

Prostrate, therefore, your bodies and your *Souls*, with humility, gratitude, love, and joy, O ! ye highly favoured of the human-race !---and instantly obey, at once the Divine will !---and the native and natural desires of your own hearts.

For I know that, however mistaken ye have hitherto been in the means,--- however widely ye have wandered from the right path,--- however grossly ye have been blinded and imposed upon by flattering, avaricious or ambitious men, I know that your own souls pant to promote the real honour, and the lasting happiness of your people ;—disperse, therefore, *for ever*, the groups of evil and designing Councillors, ostensible and secret,---and the thick shades of error and of obstinacy, which have so long and so fatally encompassed your persons and your thrones, obscuring, deforming, or altogether interrupting all Heaven born Light !--- all brightness, and sweet serenity of mind,--- and all true, high and per-

permanent happiness from your own souls and bodies,---and from the Souls and bodies of those men, women, and children, whom, by divine providence ! or by natural or accidental causes, ye have been called to rule over, and to protect.

O ! let that kingdom of God, for the accession and establishment of which ye, and your poor, unhappy, because ever *erring*, ever-wandering people have been so long praying,--- and which is none other than a kingdom of Light, Life and freedom !--- of peace, love, and happiness !)--- O ! Let it shine into,--- warming, expanding, and illuminating every heart,---and be the gloriously distinguished--- and supremely happy instruments of establishing it for ever on the earth. --- *Then* shall the people sing aloud for joy.--- Then will they reverence you with the liveliest Love !--- and praise you with the most unfeigned fervour !--- *then* shall the nations arise up, as with one body and one Soul, and call you ! Their respecting sovereigns ! Thrice and for ever Blessed ! ---and THEN shall that most comprehensive and most complete Prayer ! Which the meek and condescending Saviour of the world taught us, return and melt into the Divinely benevolent, infinitely wise, all comprehending and Omnipotent mind ! from whence it originally issued,--- Saying, “ *Father ! again receive thy messenger,--- for thy kingdom is now come,---and thy will is done on Earth, even (comparatively) as it is done in Heaven.*”

And

And that this blessed Consummation will sooner or later take place,---*who* can reasonably doubt? ---for *dare* we suppose that the merciful Sovereign!---the Omnipotent and Eternal Lord of all Truth!---of all Power!---and of all Goodness! hath led his Creatures into error and disappointment?---Did he mean to tantalize them by teaching and commanding them to pray for what he neither *intended*, nor *could* perform?---Did he command them to seek for what they should never find?---to knock when he had decreed that it should never---never be opened?---O! No. He is Goodness itself! who commanded. He is faithfulness! in its ever and *over*-flowing Source! that promised;---He is the Eternal Rock of all ages, and of all Systems and Worlds, and Beings, and Things who decreed!---his purposes shall stand fast for ever!---and when he *wills*---his *will* is an instantaneous and a *perfect act*!

Take therefore ye dread Soveriegns of the Earth, these keys which I now herewith present to you! and open with them *wide* the Flood-gates of intellectual Light! and of universal liberty and happiness!---or, in a word, of the Heavenly and Eternal Kingdom! that it may come in, and by its own divine Energy,---Eternal durability,---and supreme beauty and loveliness!---be established upon the Earth for ever:---and behold your reward!---your Great your Glorious---your Eternal reward!---Ye shall be *indeed* Kings and Conquerors

querors!---Ye shall be indeed the Vicegerents of the *Universal* and *Eternal* King!---and ye shall never---never die!---ye shall be launched on the glad and grateful tears---and wafted or translated by the ardent aspirations and benedictions of your Subjects, to the right hand, or even to the *bosom* of the Great King!---the everlasting Father!--- the Prince of Peace!---the mild---inextinguishable---ever-flowing---and all-blessing LIGHT!---there to imbibe, and for ever to transmit, that ever-living and most resplendent LIGHT!---there to rise to the highest and brightest degrees of Intelligence, of Love, of Harmony, and of pure extatic adoration!---ynd there to repose and to bask in everlasting and transcendent blessedness!----or, finally, to be attracted, absorbed, and assimilated by *DEITY* in its ineffable and essential Source!—

With Atheists, Deists, Infidels, and other Scoffers, it as been the great, unanswered, and insuperable plea, that the Christian Religion having made so little progress, as to *extension* over the World, in the long period of 1800 years, and manifested scarce any good effects as to the behaviour and happiness of those who *have*, and who *do* profess it,---it cannot therefore be of Divine institution, nor essential to Salvation. I am astonished that not one, (so far as I know) of our Divines, or other great men, have thought of sapping and driving *these*, the most miserable of men, from *this*,
their

their fancied strong hold,---when it can be so easily done, by adverting to, and demonstrating, that general and constant analogy of nature, which obtains so strikingly throughout the Universe, or the natural and the moral or intellectual Worlds. Thus, we ever, and every where may observe in the vegetable kingdom, Mushrooms, and all other plants which spring up suddenly, as suddenly fade, wither, and disappear. They are neither sound, salutary, nor lasting. Whereas the Cedar, the Oak, and every *other* Vegetable thing that grows, and spreads, and comes to maturity and perfection slowly, and imperceptibly, flourishes and endures a proportionable number of years, or of *centuries* of years. In the fossil or mineral Kingdom too, this rule or method of Providence holds equally good; and among all *Animals* likewise, it is most obviously and unerringly the case.

Those insects, for example, and other creatures that are produced and matured in a few hours, or in one Summer's day, exist no longer. While those which require many months, or many many *years*, to come to maturity, or to the perfection of their bodily or mental faculties, live a proportional length of time.

Perfectly agreeable to all this, is the ordination of intellectual matters. Very early, and very brilliant mental powers seldom are deep, and never last long: while that judgment, or those faculties that evolve and are ripened slowly

slowly, are generally the clearest, the deepest, and the most permanent.

This rule or law of Providence, of nature, or of nature's God ! like all the others of his laws or ordinations, pervades, steadily and invariably, the whole Universe ! and extends even to the minutest and seemingly to the most trivial matters. Thus we see that all violence and usurpations are, in comparison, but momentary ; and that fame, wealth, and honours, however great, that are acquired very rapidly, unduly, or, as it were, in a moment, are equally *unsubstantial*, and transient, as to duration ;-- whereas that fame or those riches or honours, which are acquired or obtained on natural and on laudable grounds, and *slowly*, insensibly, and labouriously, are proportionally honourably, satisfactory, and durable.

From all this I very naturally and most reasonably I think infer and conclude (for Philosophers can have no other guide than analogy in ascertaining things beyond the reach of sense or of common reason) that the simple, mild, all-blessing Christian Religion ! which in due time is to be extended to every part of this habitable globe,---which is thankfully and universally to be embraced, and for ever held fast, by all the children of the good or elect seed,---and which is to endure for ever, or till the final consummation of all things, is necessarily slow in its progress and full establishment, and in the manifestations of its infinitely blessing effects : in-
somuch,

so much, that so far from the time *already* elapsed since the mysterious incarnation of the all-blessing Word! being sufficient for this great purpose, many *many* Thousands, or perhaps MILLIONS of years, may *yet* be necessary to the universal promulgation and full establishment, of *that* promised Kingdom which is yet to come, of that Reign whose charter is ineffable Love, and whose object is the restoration and the highest happiness of men. For we should recollect that in the spiritual or eternal world, to which the pure, simple, divine religion of Jesus hath chief reference, sublunary portions or divisions of time may scarcely be reckoned;---and, *above all*, we should reflect, that, with the eternal self-existing God of the Universe!--a Thousand years are as one day,---and one day as a Thousand years.

Deeply impressed with these sentiments, and sublimely animated with these hopes, O suffer me, ye Christian Princes! and ye other Potentates of the Earth, suffer me to beseech you, to conjure you,—in the name of the tremendously glorious—eternally steady—all-seeing white-robed Majesty of all Life—of all Peace,—and of all happiness!--that the wars and desolations which have already stained, blasted, and swept security and happiness from the Earth, be *more* than sufficient to glut those infernal Demons of blind and of mad ambition, and of cruel and insatiable avarice, which have stimulated you to Wars, to Conquest, and to Colonizing.

Know

Know ye not, ye Kings and other Sovereigns of the Earth ! that very great wealth or riches, and very widely extended Dominions, or remote Colonies, are the greatest curses which the Omnipotent God himself ! can inflict upon men as individuals, or as compacted into states, kingdoms, or common-wealths ! — Yes ; --- they are the greatest snares to the innocence, --- to the moderation, and consequently to the happiness of individuals, --- they are the infallible forerunners of the jealousies and discords, --- of the corruptions and dissolutions of all Empires. Advert, I pray you, to the rise, to the Zenith, --- to the declension, and to the final dissolution of all the kingdoms, and great Empires, and States, that hitherto have been on the Earth : and learn thence moderation and content ; --- be each of you, living in all love and unity with your people, in your natural or native kingdom or country, as “ a city compacted together ; ” --- and if there be yet but *one* root of peace, --- but *one* branch of the Olive which the deadly contagion of war, or intestine divisions and venality have not blasted, Ah ! cherish it, --- and let anthems of freedom of and peace on Earth be yet sung among men, and sentiments of unfeigned love and good will universally transfused from heart to heart through the world. --- Make your PEOPLE your Treasurers ; let YOUR truest riches consist in the plenty and happiness which THEY enjoy ; and scorn *that* species of Government which is forced to nourish, and to retain in its interest, desperate

desperate and factious men;---and which degenerates into a mere system of taxation---of intolerable taxation,---grinding the faces, and continually sucking out the vital blood of the same silly sheepish people, and *that* in reality, for either the most imaginary, or most *impolitic* purposes!

O! let the former, and the very late massacres of millions of souls and bodies,---the lawless unnatural rapines,---the wanton and irretrievable lost millions of money,---and the horrible apprehensions and beggaring of millions of your fellow creatures which have shook, wrung, and convulsed the vitals of the *old*, and especially of the *NEW* world,---and which certainly have *ever* peopled the infernal regions of darkness, of torment, and of despair,---suffice to the end of time; --- and *be assured* that whilst God and nature *allows*, TEACHES, COMPELS every man, and woman, and beast, and worm, and louse, to defend itself from oppression, captivity, pain, and death, yet the greatest Prince, or King, or Emperor! that ever lived, has no more *right*, in the sight of God, of nature, or of humanity, to make *offensive war* against his own species, than the meanest chimney-sweeper or beggar-man has.

F I N I S.